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July 28, 1999

Re Dockets NOS: 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-O197.

2308 '99 AUG -3 A10:54

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

Dear F& D Administration

We would like you to know that we oppose the following practices because they are externely cruel and inhumane. We hope that the above numbers will be taken seriously, and you do the following. We especially oppose FORCED MOLTING of hens.

- 1.--FDA must do more than put bacteria warning labels on egg cartons and regulate egg refrigeration temperatures.
- 2.--FDA should prohibit the practice of forced molting because forced molting has been scientifically shown to promote disease by destroying the starying hens' immune systems.
- 3. --FDA has jurisdiction to ban farm practices, such as forced molting, that injure human health.
- 4. --FDA must ban the forced molting of laying hers because forced molting is a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs, and consumers of eggs.
- 5. --FDA was petitioned in April 1998 to ban forced molting. This petition should be granted without further delay.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns.

Yours truly,

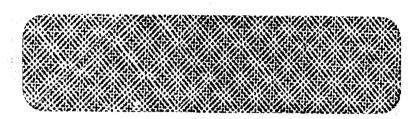
Linda and Jim Yester

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See File Number: 97P-0197/C 28